

## Questions and Answers – 12/30/2015

### Funding Opportunity Announcement CDC-RFA-GH16-1645

#### Providing Technical Assistance and Support to Strengthen the Capacity of the Health Management Information Systems of the South African National and Provincial Departments of Health under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

	Question	Response
1.	Would you please clarify if Section 10 d, that is, "Organizational Capacity of Applicants to Implement the Approach", should be submitted as a stand-alone ( as is the case with Table of contents, Project Abstract Summary etc.) OR is this section part of the 18 page limit of the Project Narrative?	Please refer to D. Application and Submission Information 10. Project Narrative for information on what must be included in the project narrative submittal. Applicants should address the d. organizational capacity of applicants to implement the approach in the project narrative as required. The attachments referenced in d. organizational capacity of applicants to implement the approach should be uploaded to grants.gov as part of the appendix.

#### Questions from the Informational Conference Call

	Question	Response
1.	Please discuss how the focus on HIV/AIDS/TB relates to this HMIS-specific FOA; How will the award be harmonized with objective #5 and GH16-1643 FOA.	The focus is on HIV/AIDS/TB elements because it is PEPFAR-funded and must be aligned to those overall targets and objectives. Applicants can still address issues in the overall HIV/AIDS realm. While there are two independent FOAs, we envision the HMIS support within GH16-1645 FOA would be coordinated and complementary with national service delivery. We would direct applicants to the relevant sections including 'Background (pp. 5-6)', 'Project Description logic model (p. 8)', 'Outcomes (pp. 9-10)', and 'Evaluation & Performance Measurement (pp. 11-13)' for additional information and detail related to the expectations of this FOA.
2.	Can applicants apply to both FOAs—1645 and 1643—or do applicants have to apply only to one.	There is no regulation that excludes applications to both FOAs. It is the applicant's discretion whether they want to apply to both or only one of the FOAs.
3.	Can applicants have a consortium that includes multiple Program Directors and multiple Principle Investigators?	There is no FOA language that precludes this. If approved for funding, this would be negotiated and discussed during budget discussions.
4.	Do applicants submit a budget for \$5,000,000, the annual ceiling? Or do applicants budget for the remaining years / entire project period?	While, the SF424 requests for projected costs, applicants should only apply to the annual ceiling amount and not to exceed that. Page 16 stipulates that the total Fiscal Year funding is \$5,000,000 as is the annual ceiling. CDC cannot inform the applicants what amount to apply for, but only to not exceed the annual ceiling listed in the FOA. Furthermore, applicants should only apply to the first budget period.

**Questions and Answers – 12/30/2015**

**Funding Opportunity Announcement CDC-RFA-GH16-1645**

5.	If applicants know of organizations that they could potentially collaborate with, could applicants make them aware of this HMIS work?	It is the discretion of the applicant whether that applicant wants to collaborate with or inform others regarding the HMIS work requested in this FOA.
6.	Could you elaborate regarding the integration into other reporting systems or the integration discussions and how it feeds into DATIM or other PEPFAR-reporting systems?	Program data are currently manually entered into the 'stand alone' DATIM system. There is potential opportunity to have DATIM be integrated into the various components of the national health information systems for improved efficiency of reporting.
7.	Is CDC able to work with applicants as they develop their application proposals?	CDC staff cannot collaborate or consult directly with applicants as this is a fully competitive funding announcement and in doing so may jeopardize the objectivity of the submission and review process